

Congressman Panetta Representing California's 20th Congressional District

Congressman Jimmy Panetta is dedicated to public service and proudly serves California's 20th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. First elected to Congress in 2016, he was sworn in as member of the 115th Congress on January 3, 2017.

In Washington, he serves on the House Agriculture Committee, and sits on the Nutrition and the Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research Subcommittees. There, he represents the long-term interests of our district's agriculture industry, the economic engine of the region. He is also the co-founder of the bipartisan Congressional Agriculture Research Caucus.

He also serves on the House Armed Services Committee, where he sits on the Oversight and Investigations and Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittees. Congressman Panetta works to protect our multiple military installations that teach foreign languages to our armed forces, research and develop cybersecurity and technology used on and off the battlefield, and educate and foster leadership skills of the men and women in uniform. He is also a co-founder of the National Security Task Force, which advances smart, strategic, and strong national security policies focused on protecting the United States, the American people, and our interests abroad.

Congressman Panetta previously served as a Deputy District Attorney in Monterey County, where he was assigned to the Gang Team in Salinas, responsible for prosecuting violent gang members. He began his legal career in 1996 as a prosecutor for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office in Oakland.

In 2007, Congressman Panetta volunteered for active duty and was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He worked with Special Forces units and as a result of his meritorious service in a combat zone, Congressman Panetta was awarded the Bronze Star.

Through Congressman Panetta's eight years of service with the United States Navy Reserve, he has a deep and personal connection to our nation's veterans and military families. Congressman Panetta served as a board member of the Veterans Transition Center where he focused on ending veterans' homelessness and improving resources for his fellow veterans and their families. He was also instrumental in the opening of Monterey County's first Veterans Treatment Court to ensure veterans receive the services they earned. Moreover, he worked with local leaders and veterans to establish the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery on the former Fort Ord. He was honored to be named a Monterey County Veteran of the Year in 2015.

Before attending law school, Congressman Panetta served aboard a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration research vessel and more recently as an Advisory Council member for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Congressman Panetta graduated from the University of California at Davis with an undergraduate degree in International Relations and received his law degree from Santa Clara University. He is married to Carrie McIntyre Panetta, a Superior Court judge in Monterey County, and they have two daughters, Siri and Gia.